

**P-20 Council Meeting Notes**  
**July 8, 2019**  
**DRAFT**

Marion E. Profitt Training Center  
Appoquinimink School District  
118 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Odessa, DE

Members Present: Whitney Sweeney, Susan Bunting, Representative Earl Jaques, Steve Yeatman, Jim Wilson, Alison White, John Pelesko, Justina Sapna, Kiki Evinger, Christine Eisenhower, Jeff Gibson, Kevin Fitzgerald, and Sandra Delauder.

Others Present: Jenna Ahner, Christine Alois, Monica Gant, Janine Sorbello, Carol Vukelich, Shana Payne, Ariana Minella, Bridgette Boody, and Dawn McHugh.

**I. Welcome and Objectives**

Whitney Sweeney, President, State Board of Education, called the meeting to order.

Ms. Sweeney provided an overview of the agenda and outlined objectives for the meeting which included subcommittee updates, legislative and budget updates, and discussion on strategic priorities.

**II. Approval of April 8, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Sweeney presented the draft minutes from the April 8, 2019 meeting.

A motion was made by John Pelesko and seconded by Steve Yeatman to approve the April 8, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried.

**III. P-20 Subcommittee Updates**

Carol Vukelich, University of Delaware, provided an overview of the Early Literacy Subcommittee. Dr. Vukelich shared that the committee has reviewed standards and accreditation processes for the elementary teacher education program and early childhood education programs. The committee has also reviewed the 2017 International Literacy Association Standards and standards for the Delaware Stars program. She discussed the policies and regulations that have been considered by the Committee. The subcommittee will draft recommendations on teacher

preparation programs to share at the next meeting. The committee will also discuss and put forward recommendations on graduate programs and teacher professional development.

Shana Payne, Department of Education, provided an update on the College Readiness Framework. Ms. Payne shared that her office will be reaching out to discuss statewide supports for dual enrollment. Council members discussed how to communicate the framework to parents and students, aligning and communicating work between districts and institutions of higher education, developing joint professional development, reviewing and discussing placement policies, and utilizing data to determine the impact of new placement policies.

Mr. Pelesko, University of Delaware, provided an update on the subcommittee on reducing math remediation. He discussed the desire to share the recommendations with school superintendents, curriculum supervisors, school counselors, and other existing groups to assist in moving the work forward. The math committee will also review and discuss a report that is underway through the Center for Research in Education and Social Policy (CRESP).

#### **IV. 2019 Legislative and Budget Updates**

Susan Bunting, Secretary of Education, provided an update on the major education highlights within the FY20 final operating budget, with a focus on opportunity funding, reading interventionists, teacher readiness and stipends, the Delaware Literacy Plan, and math coaches.

Council members asked questions about recent changes to the SEED program, the impact of the program, and how changes will be communicated to students. The Council also discussed investments in reading, trauma-informed practices, wellness centers, early childhood education, and school safety.

Secretary Bunting provided an overview of legislation passed in 2019. She highlighted legislation on trauma-informed care, extended learning opportunities, the Redding Consortium, redistricting, expansion of the SEED program, and shifts in the Office of Child Care Licensing. She also provided an overview of legislation that did not pass.

#### **V. Discussion of Draft P-20 Council Strategic Priorities**

Jenna Ahner, State Board of Education, provided an overview of the draft strategic priorities for the P-20 Council. Ms. Ahner provided information on the operations and focus areas of P-20 Council's in other states.

Council members discussed the desire to have clear structures and goals. Members discussed the role of the Council in reviewing data and discussed associated next steps. They also discussed the desire to align communications across organizations.

Members discussed potential strategies and activities that can help move the work forward. The Council discussed the frequency of meetings.

Council members discussed the work underway through other committees and organizations and opportunities to connect the P-20 Council's priorities to other existing work underway. Members discussed the value in expanding communications across K-12, IHEs, and the business community. Members discussed the Council's role in more effectively connecting organizations and institutions.

Council members discussed P-20 Council membership. Council members discussed opportunities to further engage with school leadership and the business community. Council members discussed opportunities to identify challenges and work together to find common solutions. Members identified and discussed potential issues that could be addressed through the Council. Members also discussed the desire to be forward-looking.

## **VI. Next Steps and Adjournment**

Ms. Delauder shared information regarding a recently approved program at Delaware State University focused on addressing student trauma.

Ms. Sweeney thanked participants for their time and indicated that an e-mail will be sent to schedule a September meeting. The next meeting of the P-20 Council is scheduled for October 21, 2019.